

hereby provisionally elects species 2, consisting of claims 13 and 14. Applicant respectfully traverses the requirement.

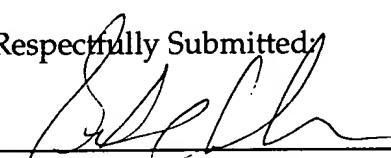
The statutory requirement under 35 U.S.C. §121 that there be both independence and distinction between the inventions has not been met. Therefore, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the requirement. Although claims 1 through 12 constituting species 1 has not been provisionally elected, applicant still reserves the right to file a divisional application for this subject matter and applicant does not waive any right therefore or abandon such subject matter.

A Preliminary Amendment is also provided before receipt of any substantive Office Action on the merits of this case. Ten new claims are before the Examiner.

In view of the foregoing, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the position taken in the last Office Action acting favorably hereon by removing this restriction requirement. If, upon further consideration, the Examiner believes that further issues remain outstanding or new ones have been generated. The Examiner is respectfully requested to call undersigned in order to expeditiously resolve same.

Dated: August 16, 2002

Respectfully Submitted,



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